SOME

ACCOUNT

OF THE

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LIFE and DEATH

OF

Matthew Lee,

Executed at *TYBURN*,

October 11, 1752, In the 20th Year of his Age.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

SOME

ACCOUNT

OF THE

LIFE and DEATH

OF

MATTHEW LEE, &c.

MATTTHEW LEE was born in *Croft* in *Lincolnſhire*, was educated in that Neighbourhood; and at eleven Years of Age, put Apprentice to a Shoe-maker in *Bratot* near *Spillsbury*, and ſerved his Time to the Approbation of his Maſter: was of a ſober, quiet Diſpoſition, and eſteem'd for his Good-nature and Integrity. Shortly after the Expiration of his Apprenticeſhip, by the Invitation of his Brother, he came to *London*; but being uſed to coarſe, country Work, unſkill'd in the Method of Working in *London*, and but a ſlow Hand withal, he was incapable, by his Buſineſs, of gaining even the Neceſſaries of Life. This involv'd him in great Difficulties and Diſtreſſes, his Relations not being in Circumſtances to grant him any Aſſiſtance. On his Application to them for Advice, what Method to purſue, he was adviſ'd to get a Waiters or Drawers Place at an Inn.

After

After ſome time he was hired to the *Swan* at *Fulham*, where he lived contentedly and agreeably, gain'd the Good-will of thoſe whom he convers'd with, and kept his Character unblemiſh'd. He afterwards liv'd at a Public Houſe in *Carnaby-Market*; from thence he went to the *Three Tuns* in *New-Street*, *Fetter-Lane*, where he continued to live, till within a Fortnight before the Robbery: when a Perſon who came frequently to drink at his Maſter's Houſe, and with whom *Matthew* had contracted an Intimacy, one Day told him that it lay in his Power to be of great Benefit to him, and if he would hearken to his Advice, he might live more eaſy and more advantageouſly than he could do in a Publick Houſe: *Matthew* inquired into the Particulars of the Affair: *Walton* [for ſo was his Companion's Name] inform'd him That his Aunt had left him alarge Legacy, and he was now going to receive the ſame, and if he would quit his preſent Service, and attend on him, he would give him great Wages, and he ſhould live as himſelf. He the more readily agreed thereto, from a Deſire to be freed from the Threatnings of a Woman with whom he had ſinful Commerce. He had borrowed Money of her, which he was at preſent incapable of paying her, for which ſhe frequently threatened him with a Gaol. This made him the more willing to leave his Place to be freed from her Importunity. Accordingly he pack'd up his Clothes, with what Money he had, and went from his Place with his new pretended Maſter.

But he ſoon found his Miſtake: they wandered up and down, till their Money being expended, and no lawful Proſpect of a Recruit,

Walton

Walton ſhewed *Lee* a Piſtol, and ſaid, "This muſt ſtand our Friend, and ſupply us with all we want." When he objected to the Propoſal, the other with dreadful Curſes threaten'd to blow his Brains out if he did not comply. While they were arguing upon the Point, they had an Opportunity of putting their Deſign in Execution: for in the midſt of their Diſcourſe, Mr. *Chalmer* came in Sight. *Walton* gave *Lee* the Piſtol to attack him, but his Heart failed; he ſat down on the Side of the Field, and Mr. *Chalmer* paſſed by uninterrupted.

For this, *Walton* reproach'd him bitterly; upon which they both follow'd him, *Lee* with his Piſtol, and *Walton* with a large Stick, and robbed the Gentleman of his Watch and fourteen Shillings. Had *Walton* been contented with what the Gentleman had given him, in all Probability they might have eſcaped; but *Walton* perceiving a Bulk in his Pocket (which was thirteen Guineas) demanded it, which Mr. *Chalmer* refuſed, and recovering his Spirits, told them, "Except they would give him his Watch, he would follow them." *Walton* obſerving this, took the Piſtol from *Lee*, and made his Eſcape over the Fields; but *Lee* having the Watch, was cloſely purſued, and taken with the Watch upon him.

He was firſt committed to *Bridewell*, and continued there ſix Weeks: during his Stay there, God was pleaſed to incline the Heart of one to viſit thoſe who were there confin'd, and to publiſh the glad Tidings of Salvation; and God gave *Lee* an Ear to hear the Goſpel Sound, and an Heart to embrace it: he took great Delight in hearing: and a viſible Alteration was obſerved in his whole Behaviour. He was convinced of his loſt and undone State; was ſenſible

ſible how vile and guilty he was before GOD: was much by himſelf in Reading and Prayer, frequently and Earneſtly crying for Mercy. But he was very fearful leaſt his many and great Sins would exclude him from the Favour of GOD; and though he was only guilty of this Robbery, yet he acknowledged himſelf a vile and hell-deſerving Creature, for his whole Life. It was now the Grief of his Heart that he had ever ſinned againſt ſuch a good and gracious GOD: who he acknowledged had been frequently ſtriving with him. For (ſaid he) I remember when I have been Drinking and Merry-making with my Companions, in the midſt of my Mirth, great Horror and Diſtreſs have ſeized me, that I have oft-times been forced to leave my Company, and retire by myſelf. I have been frequently diſtreſſed on Account of my Sin: my Conſcience has check'd me in, and after the Committing of it; but by Company and Mirth it would ſoon wear off, though not ſo, but at times it would return again.

The very firſt Time he heard the Preaching in *Bridewell*, the Terrors of the Almighty fell upon him, and the Arrows of GOD ſtuck faſt in his Soul. The Senſe of his Crime (not as it was meerly againſt the Laws of Man, but as it was againſt the Law of GOD) and all his former Sins greatly diſtreſſed him. The Thoughts of Death, but eſpecially of a Judgment to come, made him tremble exceedingly. He feared the Wrath to come, and knew not how to flee from it. He was deſirous to know what he muſt do to be ſaved; but did not ſee CHRIST the Way of Salvation. He was now crying out undone! undone! and writing bitter Things againſt himſelf. He was ſo deſirous to hear the Goſpel, that he would rather

ther loſe the Favour of his Relations and Friends, that viſited him, than loſe one Opportunity: Saying, "He had but one Friend to pleaſe, and that was CHRIST."

He heard with ſuch Attention and Affection, that he ſeem'd even to eat the Words of the Preacher. He earneſtly longed for the Pardon of his Sins: but for the firſt three Weeks he had not the leaſt Glimpſe of Comfort.

Shortly after, as he was in Prayer, crying earneſtly for Mercy, under great Horror of Soul, GOD broke in upon him in a wonderful Manner, which he thus expreſſed to the Perſon that preached.

"I believe now my Peace is made with GOD through JESUS CHRIST. I experience a great Change in my Soul, for while I was at Prayer, laſt Night, in great Terror, apprehenſive that I was going immediately Body and Soul to Hell: I cry'd out ſo loud that my Fellow-priſoners in the next Ward heard me, and call'd to know what was the Matter: I told them That I was going to Hell, and begg'd their Prayers for me: but while I was in the midſt of this Horror and Diſpair, I ſuddenly experienced a bleſſed and comfortable Change: my Mind was immediately calmed: I believed my Sins were forgiven: the Fear of Hell was taken away: and I was ſo far from fearing Death, that I was now more deſirous to die, than to live."

He earneſtly deſired Prayer to GOD in his Behalf, and Wept bitterly that ever he ſhould ſin againſt him. It was very obſervable from this Time, that the greater Senſe he experienced of the Mercy of GOD to him, the greater hatred and abhorrence he had of Sin, and of himſelf for committing it.

He

He was now more ſerious in hearing the Word than ever; was frequently ſinging of Plalms and Hymns, particularly two, (which are inſerted at the cloſe of this Book.) He could not bear to hear any of his Fellow-priſoners profane the Name of GOD, but would reprove them and exhort them with a ſerious Concern to reflect on the Conſequences of ſuch a Behaviour: he admoniſhed them to be thoughtful about their precious and immortal Souls.

"Oh! (ſaid he) did you but feel the Terrors I lately did for my Sins, you would dread the Thoughts of ever ſinning again."

I have (ſays he, to a Friend) deſerved eternal Death; but bleſſed be GOD who hath taken away the Sting of Death, and the Guilt of Sin; and now I can walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, and not be afraid: now I can lay down and riſe up, can live and die in Peace."

Being removed from *Bridewell* to *Newgate*, to be tryed at the *Old-Bailey*, the Day before he was brought to the Bar, he ſaid, "Shortly I ſhall appear before the Bar of Man, and receive a Sentence of Death on this Body; but this is my Comfort, before Man condemns me, GOD, the Eternal GOD, has pardoned me: I ſhall ſtand guilty before Man, but guiltleſs before GOD."

Being aſked "How he, who acknowledged himſelf a Sinner, could ſtand guiltleſs before GOD?"

He replyed, "Becauſe JESUS CHRIST hath waſhed away my Sins in his own Blood; and I am juſtified by his Grace: my Sins are covered with his Righteouſneſs, and he hath blotted them out of the Book of his Remembrance."

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It was aſked again, How he knew that CHRIST had taken away his Sins, and that he was waſhed in his Blood?"

He replyed: "As a loſt and undone Sinner, I have laid hold on JESUS CHRIST by Faith: I reſt the whole of my Salvation upon him: I have believed in Him: and He hath adopted me into his Family: the Spirit of GOD bears Witneſs with my Spirit, that I am a Child of GOD. Thus I know that all my Sins are pardoned, and let Death come when it will, I am ready; for I am aſſured, as ſoon as this Body is dead, my Soul will be with JESUS in Paradiſe."

One preſent ſaid, "That we had need be cautious of deceiving our own Souls, and adviſed him to be modeſt in his Expreſſions: for many who had made a great Profeſſion for many Years, could not ſpeak with ſuch Confidence as he did."

He anſwered, "I ſpeak it from a Certainty of the Thing; that which I *ſee* and *feel*, I teſtify unto you.

Sir, If theſe heavy Irons were removed from me, ſhould not I be ſenſible of it; and could not I by Experience declare to others that my Irons were removed, and my Leggs were at Liberty? Would not the Alteration I felt, be a ſufficient Foundation to aſſert the Satisfaction I found by the Removal of them? Why thus it was lately with my Soul: it was fettered down to Sin: I was a Slave to my Luſts, and I could no more get rid of my Sins, than I can of theſe Irons; but while I was fearing and expecting to be caſt into Hell every Moment, JESUS CHRIST came and knock'd off my Irons, my Sins: He ſhut the Doors of Hell, and opened the Doors of Heaven; and ſet my

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Soul

Soul at Liberty. GOD has made me, who was a Slave of the Devils, to be a Subject of CHRISTS. I am brought from my Luſts and Pleaſures, which I loved, to love nothing elſe but JESUS CHRIST. And can ſuch an Alteration be wrought in my Soul, and I be ignorant thereof? ——— O bleſſed be GOD, this Change fills me with Joy: I am full of Joy: Joy, not to be expreſſed: for CHRIST loves me, and I love CHRIST, and I ſhall ſhortly be with Him for ever."

One ſaying, he had a heavy Pair of Irons on. Oh! (ſays he) theſe are the curſed Fruits of Sin: this is the Honour the Devil's Servants have: theſe are the Badges that declare to whom I did belong, and tell what dirty Work I have been engaged in. Ah, curſed Sin, that expoſes us to ſuch Miſery here, and to Ten-thouſand Times Ten-thouſand worſe hereafter! It was my Sins that brought me here; and my Sins made me liable to be the Devil's Priſoner in the dreadful Priſon of Hell for ever: but the LORD hath ſpread all my Sins before my Face, that I might ſee the Magnitude and the Multitude of them; and then be blowed them away with a Blaſt of his Holy Spirit. All my Sins appeared before me, and they looked like the Devil from whence they came: but then JESUS CHRIST caſt them all behind his Back, and made me whiter than driven Snow in his Preſence".

Being adviſed to plead, Not Guilty, when called to the Bar, and told, Perhaps it might ſave his Life:

He replyed: " I will not tell a Lye to ſave Ten-thouſand Lives. It is true, Life is ſweet, but the Love and Favour of GOD is ſweeter to me

me than Life itſelf: How do I know, but while I am telling of a Lie to ſave my Life, I may be ſtruck dead, and loſe my precious Soul for ever? I ſhall therefore plead Guilty; not with a Deſign to obtain the Favour of Man thereby; for I expect, nor deſerve none; but becauſe I would not offend GOD, and grieve his Holy Spirit."

A By-ſtander aſked him, Whether he was willing to die?

He ſaid, "When I conſult with Fleſh and Blood, it ſeems hard to leave the World in the Bloom of my Youth; but when I conſider I am going to Him whom my Soul loves, then I long to be diſolved, and to be with CHRIST JESUS."

This, with much more to the ſame Import, he uttered, with a chearful Countenance, and with ſuch an humble, yet confident Boldneſs, as filled all with Admiration that heard him.

A Roman Catholic, being preſent, could not believe that it was poſſible for any one to know his Sins were forgiven; but acknowledged he believed *Matthew* to be a pious young Man, and that if it was to be known here, he did know it.

A near Relation, being of the ſame Opinion, as to the Knowledge of the Forgiveneſs of Sins, he ſaid, "Believe me, as I ſhortly expect to die, and look on myſelf us a dying Man, I am poſſitive GOD for CHRIST's Sake hath pardoned all my Sins; and I am not afraid to face Death, for Death cannot hurt me."

To ſome, he ſaid, "My living in an Alehouſe expoſed me to much evil Company, and I was forced to hear much Curſing and Swearing, to which I myſelf was too much addicted.

This

This, with my Lying and Uncleanneſs, made me forget GOD; ſo that GOD for my manifold Sins, left me to commit the Crime, for which I am juſtly to loſe my Life. But I have no Cauſe to complain, ſince GOD hath made me Repent, and ſee the Evil of my Ways in my Chains: and Glory be to his Name, he hath ſet my Soul at Liberty. Oh! bleſſed be his Name for his unſpeakable Goodneſs to me, ſo vile and wretched a Sinner, for he hath enabled me to repent with a Repentance not to be repented of. I formerly took great Pleaſure in the committing Sin, but now I hate the very Thoughts of Sin; and I really believe (by GOD's Grace) I could not commit a Sin to gain a Kingdom."

After the Perſon, by whom he was firſt convinced, had been with him, he cry'd out, "Oh, that he could be with me always, then would my Priſon be a Palace, and my Confinement better than Liberty! ——— But, Why do I want a Man to be with me? Have I not the Preſence of GOD with me? Have I not Communion with JESUS CHRIST? And that is more valuable than all the Helps and Converſation of poor ſinful Man."

Being informed there was a Miniſter belonging to the Goal, who would help him in his Addreſſes to the Almighty GOD:

He anſwered, "Why dont he then? Why dont he come and inſtruct me? Why dont he wreſtle with GOD for me? I ſee no Regard paid to the immortal Souls of any that are confin'd here. They are running head-long to Hell, and no one ſeeks to ſtop them. None prays with; none admoniſhes, reproves, exhorts

horts them; but he that is filthy, is left to be filthy ſtill. What! Have the Priſoners in *Newgate*, immortal Souls! and yet no one regardeth them? Are they ſo good as not to need Reproof and Admonition? Or are they ſo bad as to be paſt Recovery? Who can tell, but by frequent, earneſt and heart-ſearching Preaching, GOD might reach ſome helliſh Sinner here, as he reached me in *Bridewell?* And ſhall the Servants of the Moſt High GOD be forbid to preach in *Newgate!*——What! forbid to preach to the Servants of the Devil!——Servants of the Devil, did I ſay? Devils incarnate; but yet they are not blacker than I: and the Blood of CHRIST hath reached me, and the ſame Blood can cleanſe the moſt defiled and vileſt Sinner here.——LORD, pity us in *Newgate*, and ſend ſome one to preach thy Word; and do thou make it effectual to reach their Hearts.

When he was brought to the Bar, he ſaid but little; only pleaded Guilty to the Indictment: But when he received Sentence of Death, with an audible Voice, he ſaid, "Though I ſtand condemned at the Bar of Man, I ſhall be acquitted at the Bar of GOD; for he hath forgiven me all my Sins, and aſſured me of his Glory."

After his Return back to Priſon, he was ſolid and ſerious, yet remarkably chearful: crying out "What a vile Wretch am I; and yet GOD for his SON's Sake hath pardoned me, and I ſhall ſtand before his Throne, and praiſe him for ever; for I am an Heir of GOD, and a Joint Heir with JESUS CHRIST; a Citizen of *Zion*, and a Companion with Saints and Angels to all Eternity: Oh, how do I long to die, that I may be with JESUS CHRIST,

who is my Lot and Portion: O, the Happineſs I ſhall enjoy when I have left this Clay! O, help me, Sir, to glorify GOD: I do praiſe him; but ſhew me how to do it more and more, and more ſtill: I cannot do it enough till I come to Heaven, and I ſhall not do it enough then.——Bleſſed be GOD for what I have experienced in theſe Cells: theſe dark and diſmal Cells have been light and pleaſant Places to me; for I have had the Proſpect of Eternal Glory; and I have ſeen that Eternal Glory reſerved for *Me!* Thither, thither, am I going; I have but one Storm to endure, and I ſhall be in Harbour for ever."

One aſked, "Whither he ſhould not be glad of a Reprieve, and whither he had not Hopes of not being included in the Dead Warrant?"

He reply'd, "My Fleſh and Blood deſire Life, but my Soul longs to be where Death ſhall be no more. Welcome Life; and Welcome Death: if I am reprieved, I ſhall bleſs GOD; and if I am included in the Dead Warrant, I ſhall ſtill praiſe and magnifie his Name."

One inquiring "Whether he had any to make Interceſſion for him?"

He replied, "I have no one on Earth to interceed in my Behalf: but I have one in the Court of Heaven, who hath interceeded for me, and obtained my Pardon. My Pardon is ſealed Above, and ſealed with the Broad Seal of King JESUS; that ſhall abide to all Eternity!——JESUS is my Friend, and he will prepare a Place for me."

The

The two Perſons that were condemned for Murder, ſeeing his Serioufneſs, and the Time he ſpent in Singing and Prayer; curs'd him for "Making ſuch-a-do, about nothing" (as they term'd it) and ſaid to him, "Why, we ſhall only be hang'd."

"Only be hang'd (ſays he) and is not that bad enough, to die in ones Youth and Vigour, ſuch a ſhameful Death?"

They anſwered, "Why, we muſt all die, one time or other; and now is as well as another time."

"How can you (replied he) ſpeak ſo careleſsly about the moſt important Thing in the World? But you forget.——Death is not all: for after Death there is a Judgment and Eternity! Indeed for my Part I am eaſy; becauſe I know I ſhall be happy: but I wonder you can be ſo eaſy, and your Peace not made with God.——Why you are on the Brink of Hell, and will be miſerable for ever, if you die without Repentance."

Upon their laughing at what he ſaid, he could not forbear weeping. He then turned away and ſaid no more; but it had ſuch an Effect upon him, that he could not ſleep all Night, to think what an unhappy State they were in.

One of his Fellow-priſoners being aſk'd, "Whether his Peace was made with God, or whether he could ſay his Sins were pardoned, as Mr. *Lee* did?" He replied, "He hoped it was." Mr *Lee* immediately ſaid, "That is a ſure Sign your Peace is not made with God; for, if it was, you would not only hope it was, but be ſure of it; you would feel the Effects of it; your Soul would be warmed with Love; you would

would love JESUS CHRIST, and long to be with Him.'

The two Priſoners that died with him, aſked him to eat with them. He anſwered, "No—— What, muſt we eat, to grow fat for the Grave? our Thoughts had need to be engaged about other things, than in filling and pleaſing the Fleſh." ——— They anſwered, "If we think ſo much, it will make us mad ——— "What (ſaid he) are you afraid of being mad by repenting of your Sins? You have more need of being afraid of going to Hell for the Committing of them: if we had not all been mad, we had not committed thoſe Things that brought us here. And I am ſure we ſhall be madder ſtill, if before we have loſt our Bodies, we take no Heed to ſave our Souls. ——— "Ay! But (ſays one of them) we ſhall ſome, if not all of us, get off, for the Dead Warrant is not come down yet."——— "What then (ſaid he) if the Dead Warrant ſaves any of our Bodies, it does not ſave our Souls. We have need to be thoughtful about Death, and to ſeek to have our Peace made wtih GOD, if we eſcape Death at this Time."

One of the Priſoners ſaid, "Can you now forgive your Proſecutor?"——— "As I am a dying Man (ſaid he) I love all Mankind, my Proſecutor and all, as I love my own Soul; I do not know any Perſon, not even the greateſt Enemy I have or ever had, but whom I as heartily Love, as I do myſelf; and I can pray for them as readily as I can for my greateſt Friends"

The Night before the Dead Warrant came down, he was filled with more Joy than uſual, and ſaid, "Now the LORD is ſmiling upon me; now he is ſpeaking Comfort to my Soul;

now

now, now I find nothing ſhall ſeparate me from the Love of God in Christ Jesus: O how does the Father of Mercies manifeſt his Love to me, and makes me to taſte of the Joys of Heaven before I come there: now my Heart feels what my Mouth cannot utter: he hath made Darkneſs Light before me; my dark Cell, and my dark Soul, is full of the Glory of the Lord; I am as full as my poor Soul can contain of the Divine Preſence: and if the Foretaſtes of Glory are ſo great, What muſt Heaven itſelf be? God hath opened my Eyes to behold his Glory, and my Soul is dazled with the Sight of it."

When the Dead Warrant came, and he was informed he was in it: "Bleſſed be God, (he ſaid) I am not daunted: I receive the Account with Joy: and had it been to have died immediately, it would not have ſurprized me; for I am ready for it. ——— Lord, thou knoweſt I am waiting for thy Salvation; and muſt I ſtay till *Wedneſday* before I am with Thee? Why muſt my longing Soul be kept from Thee till then? ——— But it is thy Will, and I am content to wait till Thou ſhall take me for ever unto Thyſelf. ——— O what a bleſſed Day will that be to my Soul, when it will be ſeparated from its Body, to be with Christ for ever! Death, do thy worſt; thou canſt not hurt me; for thy Sting is taken away, and thou canſt but carry me to Glory; to Glory prepared for me. ——— Lord, into thy Arms I will throw myſelf. Lord, I come, I come; I long to come to Thee; I reſign myſelf to Thee, and I depend for Salvation only on Thee, my dear Lord Jesus Christ; Thou art my Saviour; Thou art my God, and Thou wilt be mine for ever, and ever. Thou haſt forgiven

me, and by thy Grace I forgive all my Enemies. O that they may all be ſaved, and brought to live with Thee in thy Glory.——O who could have thought there had been ſo much Sweetneſs at the Bottom of this bitter Cup! —— O *Walton*, *Walton*; turn unto GOD, before it is too late: let my Death be the Means of making thee leave thy evil Ways: and may GOD change thy Heart, and forgive thee, as He hath forgiven me."

"Oh (ſaid he) I find more ſolid Joy and Comfort in Death then ever I found in all the Pleaſures of Life. Oh, that my Relations would not weep for me: it grieves me to ſee them grieve. Oh, that they may ſpeedily turn to GOD, and then, though we part here in Sorrow, we ſhall meet hereafter in Joy, never; never, to part again. —— Now, my GOD, I can ſing of thy Salvation: my Tongue ſhall ſing of thy Righteouſneſs: and ſhortly ſhall I be, where I ſhall ſing Praiſes, without ceaſing, for ever. —— What will my Friends weep when I am thus to be employed! O let them learn to follow me: not to follow me in Sin, to Priſon, or to a Gallows; but follow me to CHRIST JESUS.——. O that they would attend to the Voice of a dying Man, and cry to GOD for his Grace, that they may break off their Sins by Repentance, and lay hold of CHRIST by Faith, for everlaſting Life and Salvation. Beg of GOD a broken Spirit; ſince a broken and a contrite Heart, GOD will not diſpiſe."

The Night before his Execution, he ſpent in Prayer and Praiſe, and was heard to ſay, "LORD my Time is ſhort here, let me not fear in my laſt Moments: give me Courage to face Death: let me not be afraid of its Terrors: let thy Grace fill me with Conſolation: and let me go

go off the Stage of Life, teſtifying what thou haſt done for my Soul. May I declare thy Pardoning Grace to me. To Thee, O LORD, do I fly for Succour. To Thee I come with a Saviour in my Arms; and, if I periſh, it ſhall be crying out, GOD *be merciful to me a Sinner!* If Thou hurleſt me down to Hell, I will keep my Hold on CHRIST JESUS, and I will not let him go till Thou doſt bleſs me."

Praying with a Friend, (he ſaid) LORD ſtrengthen my Faith in my dying Moments that I may not diſhonour Thee by Fear of Death, but enable me to bear a Teſtimony to thy Pardoning Grace. May I die in the full Aſſurance of Faith, and leave a Teſtimony of the Freeneſs of thy Grace, and of thy Readineſs to pardon the Chief of Sinners.

The Morning of his Execution, when his Fetters were knock'd off, he pulled off his Hat, and, with great Serioufneſs, bleſſed GOD that had vouchſafed him his Preſence, and prayed for the increaſe and Strength of Grace to hold out to the End.

The Perſon who was taking off his Irons ſaid, "He was afraid he ſhould hurt him." "Oh, fear not, ſaid he, nothing can hurt me here, and I ſhall ſhortly be where nothing ſhall hurt me to all eternity.

When the Ordinary of *Newgate* aſk'd him, "if his Peace was made with GOD?" He anſwer'd, "Yea, I know my Peace is made with GOD, and that GOD, for CHRIST's Sake, hath pardoned all my Sins."

As he was going to Execution, he ſeemed full of Prayer and Praiſe; his Countenance chearful, and his Deportment ſerious and ſolid. In *Tyburn-Road*, a Gentleman begg'd Leave that the

the Cart might be ſtop'd, for two young Women to ſpeak to him.

To one of them he ſaid, " My dear *Nanny*, dont fret for me, for I am going to Heaven: Look up with an Eye of Faith, and you will ſee the holy Angels waiting to be my Convoy. My LORD JESUS is calling me, and I ſhall ſhortly be with Him in PARADISE"

When he came to *Tyburn*, and ſaw among the Spectators, the Inſtrument, under GOD, of his Converſion, he call'd out to him,

" Now I know you and I ſhall ſoon meet together in Glory. I am going thither, and I know you ſhall ſoon follow after. I know that I have been a vile Sinner, undeſerving the Mercy of GOD: but I know alſo that GOD, for CHRIST's Sake, hath pardoned all my Sins. Oh, this is a happy Time indeed! Bleſſed be GOD I am not afraid to die. Now I experience what you ſo often told me about the Children of GOD's triumphing over the Fears of Death."——Then with a Smile he ſaid, " O Death, where is thy Sting? O Grave, where is thy Victory? The Sting of Death is Sin; the Strength of Sin is the Law. But bleſſed be GOD, who hath given me the Victory over Sin, and over Death, through our LORD JESUS CHRIST.—— Surely GOD's Mercies are unbounded: they extend to the Chief of Sinners: for ſince the Grace of GOD hath reached me, What Room is here for the Vileſt Sinner to deſpair of Pardon?"

The laſt Words he was heard to ſpeak, was to a near Relation. " My Dear, dont vex yourſelf for me; for I ſhall be in Heaven in two or three Minutes."—— Prayers being

being ended, he committed his Spirit into the Hands of GOD, with a chearful Countenance.

His Body was taken Care of by his Friends, and on the *Sunday* following, was decently interr'd in *Tindal*'s Burial-Gronnd. —— Mr. *H.* and another Friend, performing the laſt Office of Prayer and Praiſe over his Grave, before a great Concourſe of People; where we muſt leave him to reſt till the Morning of the Reſurrection, when his Body, ſown in diſhonour, ſhall be raiſed in Glory.

PSALM LI.

1. O Thou that hear'ſt when Sinners cry,
Tho' all my Crimes before Thee lie,
Behold me not with angry Look,
But blot their Mem'ry from thy Book.

2. Create my Nature pure within,
And form my Soul averſe from Sin:
Let thy good Spirit ne'er depart,
Nor hide thy Preſence from my Heart.

3. I cannot live without thy Light,
Caſt out and baniſh'd from thy Sight:
Thy ſaving Strength, O LORD, reſtore,
And guard me that I fall no more.

4

4. Tho' I have griev'd thy Spirit, LORD,
His Help and Comfort ſtill afford:
And let a Wretch come near thy Throne
To plead the Merits of thy Son.

5. My Soul lies humbled in the Duſt,
And owns thy dreadful Sentence juſt:
Look down, O LORD, with pitying Eye,
And ſave the Soul condemn'd to die.

6. Then will I teach the World thy Ways:
Sinners ſhall learn thy Sov'reign Grace:
I'll lead them to my Saviour's Blood,
And they ſhall praiſe a Pard'ning GOD.

7. O may thy Love inſpire my Tongue,
Salvation ſhall be all my Song,
And all my Pow'rs ſhall join to bleſs
The LORD, my Strength, and Righteouſneſs.

A

HYMN.

We love him, becauſe he firſt loved us.

1. OF Him who did Salvation bring
I could for ever think and ſing.
Ariſe, ye Guilty; He'll forgive:
Ariſe, ye Needy; He'll relieve.

2. Aſk but his Grace, and lo! 'tis given;
Aſk, and he turns your Hell to Heaven:
Tho' Sin and Sorrow wound my Soul,
JESU, thy Balm will make it whole.

3. Eternal LORD, Almighty King,
All Heav'n doth with thy Triumphs ring:
Thou conquer'ſt all beneath, above;
Devils with Force, and Men with Love.

4. The wounding Spear pierces my Heart;
When Thou art nail'd, I feel the Smart;
Thy Groans my echoing Sighs diſplay;
Thou bow'ſt thy Head; I faint away.

5. Ye Hearts of Stone, come, melt to ſee,
This He endur'd for you and me:
He ſuffer'd: all our Guilts forgiv'n;
And on his Blood we ſwim to Heav'n.

6. To ſhame our Sins He bluſh'd in Blood,
He clos'd his Eyes to ſhew us GOD.
Let all the World fall down, and know
That none but GOD ſuch Love cou'd ſhow.

7. 'Tis Thee I love, for Thee alone
I ſhed my Tears, and make my Moan;
Where 'er I am, where 'er I move,
I meet the Object of my Love.

8. Insatiate to this Spring I fly;
I drink, and yet am ever dry:
Ah! who against thy Charms is proof?
Ah! who that loves can love enough!

FINIS.

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